What is claimed is:

1.   A method for central coordination of data
transmission between a transmitting network element and
5   a receiving network element, comprising:
        requesting a converter service from a converter
coordinator using the transmitting or receiving network
element;
        selecting the converter service using the
10 converter coordinator and
        performing a data conversion on the data,
wherein
        the transmitting and receiving network elements
do not have compatible data or transmission formats.
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2.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
transmitting and/or receiving network element is a
terminal.

20 3.   The method as claimed in patent claim 1, wherein
the transmitting and/or receiving network element is an
application.

4.   The method as claimed in claim 1, further
25 comprising:
    sending a report via the converter service to the
network element which produced the request.

5.   The method as claimed in claim 1, further
30 comprising:
        sending a report via the converter service to
the transmitting network element, to the receiving
network element and to the selected conversion service.

35 6.   The method as claimed claim 1, wherein the
report includes information about the interchange

format to be used by the transmitting and receiving network elements.

7.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein data
5   is transmitted between the transmitting and receiving network elements via the converter without any further action by the converter coordinator.

8.   An apparatus for central coordination of data
10 transmission between a transmitting network element and a receiving network element, comprising:

at least one converter which is registered; and

at least one transmitting or receiving network element which receives a request for a converter
15 service, wherein

the apparatus selects one of the at least one registered converters.

9.   The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein
20   the selected registered converter is sent as a response to the requesting network element.

10.   The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the selected registered converter is sent as a response
25 to relevant network elements.